

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

July 2, 1981

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Carl Grindstaff
Department of Sociology
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario,
Canada

Dear Dr. Grindstaff:

This letter comes probably far too late to be useful; I just discovered, to my chagrin, that I had left unanswered a suggestion from Dr. Augustine Brannigan that I write to you concerning his candidacy for a position at Western Ontario. That was in February and it is entirely likely that the matter is moot at the present time.

However, I hope you will have had other good information about Dr. Brannigan because I must say that I was very favorably impressed by the article on Mendel that I had seen under his authorship in "Social Studies of Science". In some correspondence he was able to point out to me some gaps in my own knowledge of the history of Mendel's biological background. For someone not working in the fields of genetics and evolution, he impressed me as having a very sensitive appreciation of the mainlines of scientific development in these areas.

I happen also to be very much interested in his style of explanation of the sociological history of ideas, a field which is thinly populated in large measure, I believe, because of the difficulties of embracing both the substantive scientific content and the metacommentary that these studies require.

Yours sincerely,

Toshua Lederberg